



Florida Advanced Technological Education Center

NEWS from
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

National Science Foundation Regional Center of Excellence to Offer Several High-Tech Robotics Camps for Middle and High School Students

FLATE (Florida Advanced Technological Education Center) the National Science Foundation Regional Center of Excellence in advanced technological education is offering several robotics camps for middle school students this summer, and is expanding its program to offer, for the first time, an “industrial robot camp” for high school students as well. The weeklong camps will be held at the Brandon campus of Hillsborough Community College (HCC), and will cost \$150 for each session.

This year’s camp season will kick into gear on June 20, with a weeklong offering for girls only. Camps two and three will be open to boys and girls, and will be held June 27-July 1 and July 11-15, respectively. The first three camps will be introductory level camps designed for middle school students, and involve reconfiguring/programming Lego® Mindstorms® robots to follow specific commands. In addition to the introductory level camps, FLATE will also offer an advanced level camp from July 18-22. Enrollment into the advanced camp will be based on successful completion of the Lego®Mindstorms® introductory camp.

(MORE)

1st add HIGH-TECH SUMMER ROBOTICS CAMPS

The high school industrial robotics camps will be held July 25-29, and will offer higher level of challenges. During the camp, participants will learn how to operate the HAS-200 automated production line, the ZeissCoordinate Measuring machine, the Labvolt5-axis micro robotic arm, and participate in team-based challenges creating original solutions for real problems with Lego® Mindstorms® Robots. They will also take a tour of the Sun Hydraulics manufacturing facility in Sarasota to gain first-hand knowledge of high-tech manufacturing operations.

As part of a wider effort, FLATE has partnered with College of Central Florida (CCF) and Florida Gateway College (FGC) to offer similar camps in Ocala and Lake City. The camps will be held June 13-16 and June 20-23 at CCF. Safety Harbor Elementary School in Pinellas County will also host a FLATE-based robotics camp. Dr. Marilyn Barger, executive director of FLATE says the camps are a fun and exciting way to sharpen students' knowledge about science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), and serves as a platform to showcase its applications in everyday high-tech manufacturing operations. The initiative is also part of FLATE's outreach efforts targeted to cultivate technical, leadership, professional and team-building skills. To enroll into one of the camps, or for more information visit www.madeinflorida.org/camps-workshops, or contact Dave Gula at 813.259.6581/gula@fl-ate.org.

FLATE is a National Science Foundation Regional Center of Excellence, committed to ensuring Florida has a well prepared workforce for advanced and emerging technologies. Created in 2004, FLATE is one of 39 Advanced Technological Education Centers in the United States funded by the National Science Foundation focused on improving science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education and training to meet the needs of American advanced technology industries. For more information visit www.fl-ate.org.

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